

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

1. ON OCTOBER 11, AFGHANISTAN'S OFFICIAL BAKSTAR NEWS AGENCY ANNOUNCED THAT USAID HAD REIMBURSED 75 PERCENT OF THE COST OF REAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (RDD) PROJECTS IN NANGAHAR, NIMROX, AND GUAZNI PROVINCES. THE AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENTS WAS 171,236 DOLLARS.

2. ON OCTOBER 15, THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED AFGHAN MEDIA WIDELY PUBLICIZED A 25,221-DOLLAR USAID GRANT FOR THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S HEADWAY PROJECT ON THE SOKHTA BAYHSHI STREAM IN THE DEF SABX WOLKSWALI OF KABULE PROVINCE. THE KAKTAR NEWS AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT NOTED THAT THE PAYMENT WAS MADE IN CONNECTION WITH A "PREVIOUS AGREEMENT," BUT UNDERSTANDABLE DID NOT MENTION THE RECENT TERMINATION OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN BY THE U.S. CONGRESS. BAKHTAR CONCLUDED WITH THE STATEMENT THAT THE USAID ASSISTANCE WAS "ACCEPTED WITH THANKS."

